

Remarks

This communication is considered fully responsive to the non-final Office Action mailed October 20, 2006.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant appreciates the examiner indicating allowable subject matter in claims 23 and 27.

Applicant amended claims 1 and 5 based on the allowable subject matter in claims 23 and 27, respectively. Accordingly, claims 23 and 27 are canceled without prejudice to the subject matter contained therein. It is noted that Applicant makes no admission by amending these claims that the examiner's rejections are supported by the cited references. Applicant reserves the right to present these claims again in one or more continuation and/or continuation-in-part applications.

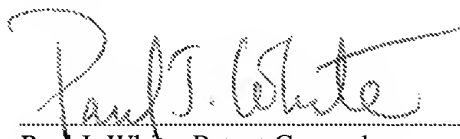
The remaining claims depend from either claim 1 or claim 5, which are believed to be allowable. Therefore, all of the remaining claims are also believed to be allowable for at least the same reasons.

Reexamination and reconsideration of the currently pending claims are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

The Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this matter. If there are any matters that may be clarified by telephone, the examiner is urged to contact Applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully Submitted,



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